

## Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 OMB-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SCCT-01 /091 W

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R 031024Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1047

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 311

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: TWELVE DIE IN TWENTY FOUR HOURS OF ULSTER VIOLENCE

REF: BELFAST 297

1. TWELVE PEOPLE DIED IN SHOOTING AND BOMBING ATTACKS NORTHERN IRELAND IN PERIOD FORENOON OCT. 2 TO DAWN OCT 3. MORE THAN FORTY OTHERS INJURED OR WOUNDED. VIOLENCE BREAKS DOWN THREE WAYS (A) CONCERTED ATTACKS PROBABLY BY ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE OR GROUPS ASSOCIATED WITH IT AGAINST CATHOLIC INDIVIDUALS OR PREMISES, (B) BOMBINGS IN ARMAGH PROBABLY BY LOCAL UNITS PROVISIONAL IRA AND (C) BOMBINGS AND SHOOTINGS IN WHICH MOTIVES AND IDENTITY PERPETRATORS STILL LARGELY UNCLEAR.

2. IN MORE THAN 16 BOMBINGS AFFECTING EVERY COUNTY IN PROVINCE EXCEPT FERMANAGH TECHNIQUES ASSOCIATED WITH ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE (UVF) USED. MOST COMMON TECHNIQUE WAS BOMB PLANTED OR THROWN INTO PREMISES, INCLUDING PUBS, WITHOUT WARNING AND IN SOME INSTANCES WITH BOMBING ACCOMPANIED BY SHOOTING ATTACKS. AT LEAST FOUR MEN KILLED IN EXPLOSION AUTOMOBILE WHICH BELIEVED CARRYING BOMB THAT EXPLODED  
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PREMATURELY NEAR COLERAINE. THESE MEN BELIEVED BE MEMBERS UVF.

3. SIX PEOPLE FOUR OF WHOM CATHOLICS INCLUDING TWO WOMEN SHOT IN CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGESTING SECTARIAN ASSASSINATIONS. IN BLOODIEST SINGLE INCIDENT THREE OF THESE KILLED IN RAID ON BELFAST BOTTLING PLANT. SINCE RAIDERS TOOK 500 POUNDS STERLING IN THIS ATTACK ROBBERY CANNOT BE EXCLUDED AS AT LEAST PARTIAL MOTIVE. THERE THREE OTHER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS IN WHICH INDIVIDUALS WOUNDED.

4. IN TWO BOMBINGS BELFAST AND ONE KILLING OF PROTESTANT BARMAN THERE POSSIBILITY THAT INTRA-FACTIONAL FEUDING INVOLVING IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY VERSUS OFFICIAL IRA AND UVF VERSUS ULSTER DEFENSE ASSOCIATION WAS AT ROOT. SIX BOMBS IN CENTER ARMAGH TOWN WERE REPORTED IN TELEPHONE WARNINGS IN TECHNIQUE ASSOCIATED WITH PROVISIONAL IRA. CONSENSUS BELFAST IS THAT MOST OF VIOLENCE ATTRIBUTABLE TO UVF AND WAS IN RETALIATION FOR PROVISIONAL BOMB BLITZ OF SEPT. 22 (REFTEL).

5. OLD DILEMMA PRESENTED ANEW TO SECRETARY OF STATE REES. IF PUBLIC SUSPICION DOES CONCENTRATE ON UVF AS MAIN PERPETRATOR THERE WILL BE GREAT PRESSURE ON SECSTATE BOTH TO PROSCRIBE ORGANIZATION AND DETAIN MEMBERS. PROSCRIPTION IS MEANINGLESS WITHOUT LEGISLATION ENABLING PROSECUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND HE CAN HARDLY REACTIVATE DETENTION FOR "LOYALISTS" AND CONTINUE TO FREE DETAINED "REPUBLICANS." EARLY REACTIONS POLITICIANS FROM BOTH COMMUNITIES INDICATE NEW PESSIMISM ABOUT POLITICAL FUTURE PROVINCE. BOTH GERRY FITT AND IAN PAISLEY IN RADIO INTERVIEWS OCT. 3 EXPRESSED DOUBTS THAT POLITICAL RESOLUTION IN CONVENTION COULD NOW STOP ESCALATING SPIRAL OF VIOLENCE.

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